

Earth First!

action
★
update

#49 July 98

"Those who rely on causes have yet to make their own lives into causes worth fighting for" Situationist International

GE DECON- FEST

Recently, many of the country's genetically engineered pollution sites have been decontaminated. In Aberdeen, concerned citizens scythed a large X across a field of GE oilseed rape, highlighting the many Scottish release sites and the lack of public debate. This crop is likely to be the first to get a commercial license here, which would mean that a huge area could be planted with it. Oilseed rape has a high cross-pollination rate, fertilising normal (non-GE) plants up to 2.5 km away - you may have witnessed its familiar yellow flowers recently beside roads, and in fields of other crops.

During the night of 4th June, 7 Frankenstein rapeseed fields were 'destroyed' across Derbyshire (3 sites), Gloucestershire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Worcestershire. Days later, the Lincolnshire Loppers struck at the only dough the companies really care about: a demonstration GE wheat field was subject to "wanton destruction" (so said one Professor, so now we know!) the night before the Cereals '98 trade fair viewing. Half a week later, at a minute to midnight, a field of GE oilseed rape at Penicuik in Scotland was no more (with campaigners also visiting the second field only 4 days later). "Once the genetic genie is out of the bottle, it will be impossible to put it back in again."

In the last month, other sites cleaned up have been rape in Norfolk and near Ponteland, and 2 sugar beet fields in Norfolk. Aliens visited Essex just before a Farming Futures show, using a green ray to decontaminate the site of oilseed rape, and warn humankind of the dangers.

With majority public opinion on our side (according to recent polls), Brookside, and Prince Charles on board (hoorah, bless his cotton, or silk, socks), no wonder that Monsanto has launched a £1 million PR offensive. For further details, or how to find your local GE release site, try Fife EF! (north of the border), or GEN for your local group.

Coming to a field near you...the genetiX snowball will be rolling from July 4th (independence from US multinationals and all that). It will spread open accountable nonviolent resistance to GE crops by encouraging people to safely pull up a small amount of crops, then get more people to join them every fortnight. See enclosed flyer, and contact genetiX snowball for more to distribute.

This is a monthly round-up of ecological direct action news and forthcoming events in Britain.

There is more about Earth First! inside this newsletter, as well as a list of contacts.



CROP SQUAT!

At 5am Saturday 23rd of May, Britain's first "crop squat" began, as 30 odd (very odd!) anti-GE activists moved onto a release site for experimental sugar beet at Kirby Bedon, near Norwich. Activists met in London the night before for the usual briefing on law, the action, the site, and what to do on arrival - like putting up Section 6 notices, a yurt, and a marquee. Police arrived within 40 minutes, and apologized for their initial hastiness, "sorry, we heard there were 30 people in a field with sticks, but got here and saw you were building wig-wams!"

Within a few hours, gardens were established, transforming this epitome of industrial corporate agriculture into organic growing, along with the essentials of camp life (toilets, kitchen and campfire), and a well-resourced info centre. The press arrived and carried on doing so for the next two weeks. At times the "radical gardeners" (as a local PC called us) regretted just being a media circus, but our success was bigger than that. Most support came from local people, some camping at night and going to work in the morning, and a successful rally brought in people naturally shy of protest sites.

With an eviction order passed after two weeks occupation (what do you expect if you squat the land of the Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk?) we packed up and left. Resist the eviction? Maybe next time; we felt we'd done well to bring so much attention to the issues and the alternatives, to worry Novartis (the crop's testers), and to get in the face of the genetiX industry. We knew we were trying too hard when the local gamekeeper complimented our behaviour and the Chief Inspector said we were the nicest protesters we'd ever met - perhaps we can justify this as outreach to the mainstream...

If you want to do a crop squat in your area, drop Norfolk EF! a SAE to find out how we did it.

GLOBAL RESISTANCE

The People's Global Action network, comprising people from many social sectors (small farmers, indigenous peoples, workers, women, ethnic groups, unemployed and many others) against neo-liberalism, believe over a hundred thousand people globally protested the G8 Summit and the Second Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organisation. Actions included a long

list of street parties, a march of 50,000 landless, homeless and unemployed people in Brazil, 23 regional conferences against the WTO in India, and anti-MAI demonstrations in Canada. In Geneva, where the WTO is seated, they were met with riots and street parties, which they met with arrests, and the expulsion of foreigners. There'll be another PGA conference (after the last one in Geneva) in two years, bringing all these people together in India. Contact <pga@agpp.org>

BINGLEY BIRTHDAY BASH

June 13-15 saw a successful "weekend of party and protest" at Ryeloaf Camp, Bingley. On Saturday night a sound system kept people boogying despite rain and mud, celebrating the camp's 2nd birthday. After a day of workshops, 25 activists disrupted work at the greenfield housing site in the nearby village of Sandy Lane. Local people, who initiated the direct action campaign, acted as legal observers, until a heavy police presence signalled half time. Resumption of play was at a much larger housing development in nearby Thackley. Work was stopped completely for most of the day. Workers were happy to have the afternoon off to watch telly (In-ger-land, In-ger-land), and there were no arrests. Scotland Yard, however, had earlier expressed interest in the Urgent network and certain active individuals.

Sandy Lane locals are currently squatting a field to prevent the laying of water pipes to new houses, guarding the site with Boris and Doris, a pair of geese rumoured to be responsible for organising the successful Stonehenge Free Festival. Contact Ryeloaf camp for more, or Residents Action Group for the Environment, on 01274 495264. You could also let Robert Monkman, the Regional Director for Brians luxury housing developers know what you think of their projects on 01937 523333, fax 523347.

HULMENS NEED GREENS

In Hulme, an inner-city area of Manchester being thoroughly 're-generated' (ie knocked down so Asda and the like can move in), local residents saw red when one of the few green areas remaining for community interaction was threatened by a proposed road junction. The grass and trees outside a pub is used for barbecues, bouncy castles, and summer banter, and people didn't want more traffic brought onto their estate to make it

'safer' for pedestrians, nor did they like rumours of industrial units where a kids' play area now stands. Meetings and petitions (more signed than voted last election!) have resulted in it being saved, so an Independence Day picnic is planned. Meanwhile the oldest tree in the area was threatened with a proposed hotel (so locals who aren't packing shelves can make beds!). It's now boasting a cosy treehouse, bender, displays and a community garden. Watch this space - the locals have it in hand, so watch out for your own!

BYP-ARSON

Pixie power is alive and kicking in Newbury as once again machinery inexplicably lights up the night sky. An excavator and a road roller spontaneously combusted and two other vehicles lost their windows - obviously air-conditioning was required. Congratulations to the security guards for once again failing to do their jobs properly...as yet no pixie prints have been discovered.

BREWERY FIELDS UPDATE

The eviction court case was lost, and with a police helicopter now overhead all the time, activists expect the police to move in imminently. They might try to clear ground camp first to isolate tree folk, and further practice their violent techniques used in the last eviction. Other police forces will act later on whatever Welsh cops get away with this time, which makes it even more important for people to get along and fill up those 'surplus' defenses.

OXFORD STOPS BUSINESS

Since the last issue, the squatted Grade 2 listed old railway station has been decorated and used by the community for free events, instead of becoming a Business School and road. The third (and thatched!) tree-house will soon complement the 8 mature and currently safe trees. The Oxford public are applauding (4,000 petition & 200-strong public meeting) - events all the time, and open days every Saturday.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

The EF! Gathering date and sites are sorted. See dates and enclosed flyer for details. Anyone interested in helping out now and/or the week before to set the site up should contact the organising crew via Leeds EF!

Unusual letter appeal: Write to Scott Porter, 31 Bernard St, Edinburgh EH6 6SH, saying yes, you think reintroducing the **endangered European beaver** to the wild in Scotland in the next 3 years is a good idea. Scottish Natural Heritage are considering it. The beavers were part of the place until the 16th century when we wiped them out (for their 'valuable' testicles!)

Paul Gill's tape 'Solid Ground' is available for £6 inc. p&p (cheques payable to R.Taylor) from End Cottage, Wood Green, Long Stratton, Norfolk NR15 2RR. Sorry we missed out half the address in AU48.

It seems the **Weymouth Relief Road** will not go ahead! The government won't give the council money for the road. **Teddy Bear Woods** camp is still going.

Students: there's a proposal for GSN and SEA to merge to form a single new network. For further details, contact SEAC at 31 Hartley Avenue, Leeds LS6 2LW, 0113 245 1958 <cen7dccc@leeds.ac.uk>

Faslane Peace Camp recently celebrated 16 years of resistance; the appeal court date is now set for 1 July, with verdict probably in August.

Bristol Love and Rockets Street Party was a success. 200 party-goers ate, drank, danced, played music, and danced on the Temple Meads flyover for 2 hours.

Radical US eco-zine **'Live Wild or Die'** is out soon. <aid@lga.apc.org>

The **South Downs June mass trespass** drew 60 people of varying ages, visiting areas with hardly any accessible open land; a de-registered common, a valley managed as a pheasant shoot, and onto a now privatised farm. See Events.

The **Zapatistas** need increased solidarity since the murderous army incursion on June 10th.

At the **Beal Valley Day of Action**, work stopped for the day as soon as the 30 or so folk turned up at the site, so not much happened. Amusing story was the undercover cop inconspicuously sitting in his car who gave himself away reading Police Journal! More events in September; contact Oldham EF!

The **Bilderberg Group** - a little-known group of hugely influential capitalists - are in the spotlight. More at <http://www.tllo.demon.co.uk/badlinks>

Epsom council propose a **relief road** through green space, funnily enough including an access road to council offices 100 yards away. There is a squat and a camp - all very cosy - the police station and ambulance service are doors away, the fire brigade, bailiffs & courts opposite!

The recent **Environment Trade Fair** in Birmingham, and all associated profiteering corporations, were greeted by activists up 30-foot flagpoles. Better clean-up, regulations, techno-fixes, blah...no more greenwash!

There was an evictions **anniversary action** at **Manchester's second runway**, with a motley bunch running around stopping machinery working, and few problems from the total 8 security guards. Meanwhile, the (local) Moberley Mums have been disrupt work every day they can - contact them via Manc EF! if you want to lend a hand.

Meanwhile, over in the **US of A**, there are currently congressional hearings on **eco-terrorism**, mainly focused on our distant relatives. "Earth First!" engages in a deliberate, orchestrated systematic criminal conspiracy that should be punishable under the Racketeer and Corrupt Organizations statute..."

Newcastle's new anti-genetics group **GeneNO** did something about that Renault car advert that's been winding us all up lately. Several local billboards displaying the car and the words "Genetic Engineering" now continue "a dangerous technology, going too fast, on the road to nowhere". GeneNO also demonstrated noisily at the EU Agricultural Ministers' dinner at Durham Castle in May. Spokesperson Jean Damaged said, "The Ministers will be choosing what they want to eat for dinner - we believe British consumers should have the same right."

The last **Hillgrove cat farm** action saw over 1000 people turn up to continue this year's long-term protest. Police made a point of arresting people for whom they had evidence of earlier "crime" - as well as one ten-year-old boy, who they held for ten hours. The actions continue throughout the year. Contact 0171 2480835

PRISONERS

Chris Garrett (Scouse Chris), CL 4664 HMP Altcourse, Fazakerley, Liverpool L9 7LH, on remand for charges relating to the Manchester Airport protest.

Isaac Osuok, Oilwatch Africa co-ordinator, detained without charge in Nigeria, for possessing 'subversive' materials. Some people here've met him, and were impressed by his work on a non-ethnically bound grassroots movement. He's likely to be executed. Please send letter to officials. For info on who to, and details, contact <aart@aseed.antenna.nl> or send a SAE to the EF!AU.

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

The campaign against genetically engineered foods in the South West goes from strength to strength. In Totnes, after a 600-strong protest at a GE test site and huge public meetings, a recent supermarket action had over 100 people (and tomatofish) running around with Unilever Disloyalty Cards (available from 0171 865 8222) and banners. Nearby, Britain's biggest organic grower is considering taking out a High Court injunction against a neighbouring GE maize field to prevent cross-pollination, which would result the loss of his organic status; the government said they hadn't thought about the issue of organic farms when granting release consents. In Wiltshire, a farmer withdrew from his contract to grow GE oilseed rape - "we don't know enough to grow mutant crops safely."

SUMM'AT IRONIC

Heads of state were bemused to be welcomed to the EU Summit by clapping, placard wielding, smiling activists from across Europe. As they drove in, they were cheered with 'Globalise me now', 'Hurray for Nuclear power', 'Make me a wage slave', and 'Clone me now'. The fun continued, when the Heads of State posed for their official photo. Close enough to be seen and heard by them and the press, activists cheered 'More oppression now!' as police were drafted in to 'contain' people vehemently supporting global capitalism(!?) The actions followed days of workshops and discussions on the EU and globalisation, organised by Reclaim Europe! On the Saturday there was a Euromarch through Cardiff, followed by the first ever Welsh Reclaim the Streets. After this last British-based event in what has been a busy 'Hot Spring', people are keen to keep going on the issues of globalisation. To keep up to date, contact A SEED and the Counter Globalisation Network.

KICKING POLAND

Better late than never: Poland EF! definitely does exist, and has campaigned hard over the last few months. Tree houses have been built in the path of the A4 motorway and the construction site blocked in the St. Annaberg landscape park (five nature reserves, home to 600 species of butterflies and numerous rare plants). It is financed by the European Investment Bank and PHARE, along with the government, and is part of the Trans European Network (TEN) transport infrastructure scheme.

When logging unexpectedly began two kilometres from the protest site, a group of protesters climbed trees in front of lumberjacks, while others locked themselves to the heavy equipment. At the same time, the proper protest camp was stormed by lumberjacks. They cut some trees and bushes, and threatened people with chainsaws. However, negotiators persuaded the few police present of the danger to the tree-house dwellers, and the lumberjacks left. Then excavators turned up, and digger-diving and dangerous driving ensued. Since this is the first protest of this kind in Poland, the authorities don't know what to do, and there's been a stalemate ever since.

They've also been actively campaigning on the Bialowieza Forest, and against the Winter Olympics 2006 taking place in the Tatra Mountains. Further info available. Support is needed, and they'd like to see sit-ins or pickets in front of Polish Embassies. Financial help is needed for food and equipment, bank account details: PEKAO SA I/O Krakow, 12401431-7021464-2700-401112-001 - "Sw. Anna" - SWIFT: P.K.O.P.P.L.P.W.K.R.A

WHATLEY VICTORY

The proposed 85-acre expansion of Whatley Quarry, which would require closure of the old lane running across the site, has been blocked. Quarry operators ARC were refused permission at a public enquiry which disputed the need for a hundred million more tonnes of roadstone. This is a victory for campaigners, after nearly a decade of direct action, and a U-turn in government policy. However, the court case of three people accused of the cutting the railway line to Whatley Quarry continues; results expected this month.

FERRARI BLOCKADE

Birmingham Critical Mass Bike Action attempted to enter the city centre Ferrari Motor Car Showroom. After a traffic calming ride, the group made its way - followed by a police van - to the prestig-

ious showroom for a planned 'Tea Party Knees-Up', only to find its entrance doors locked and guarded by two large men. They said that all Brum car showrooms had been warned of an action. So we laid the table-cloth on the pavement by the window, donned party hats and tucked into cake, biscuits and squash, inviting the police officers to join the party. Entertainment was sing-a-long tunes from the Little Nora bike-mounted system. In the local papers, a spokesman for the Retail Motor Industry Federation also provided entertainment with an amusing quote: "The car has been the most important invention of this century in terms of giving people liberty. The motor industry is not selfish & is concerned about giving people choice."

DERBY BROADCASTS FREEDOM

The occupation of the park - public land under threat of sale for a private development - continues, with ten treehouses now in place. Radio Freedom, a local radio station, recently had an outside broadcast from high up inside one (the Guinness Book of Records has been informed and apparently have been considering a separate 'protest' section for the book). After an hour or two of broadcasting about the destruction of the parkland and riverside gardens, Radio Freedom was phoned by the council, who told them to stop broadcasting as they were outside the remit of their licensing agreement - completely untrue. Derby councillors currently spend much of their time dodging local residents with petitions (11,485 signatures so far), and actions of various kinds continue...

FROM RTS PARTY-GOERS ROUND THE COUNTRY

BIRMINGHAM: "The RTS did manage to scare the G8 politicians out to the country, but many people felt some lack of a clear political dimension, which prompted discussion about the role of street parties. However the music was loud, the sun shone, the banner which listed all the countries in which anti-globalisation street parties were occurring simultaneously was pretty amazing, and the clown-suits which were accepted dress for the day went well with the ridiculous notion of the G8 Summit."

LANCASTER: "Despite police in vans, on motorbikes, on horses, and occupying an overlooking building, Dalton Square was decorated, an anarchist bookstall erected, acoustic music began and a dragon cavorted as kids chased it with gleeful abandon. A short while later the dragon led the procession to reclaim the main road running through the city. The banner flying above the party summed it up - 'More of this sort of thing!'"

HULL: "This went very neatly; the police did a deal which meant that after a few hours of street-partying and crossroads-occupying, everyone trooped off through the middle of town to the park to chill out in trees and grass. The 'Hull Daily' later said that 'street protest has a party mood', with a completely mellow report, pictures of smiling children and not a hint of the 'sinister RTS organisation' in sight."

LEEDS: "People came together on Albion Street to be confronted with 20-30 police brandishing truncheons, batons and, more worryingly, CS gas spray, which was used on several party-goers. Attempts to set up a bouncy castle were beaten back by more officers with telescopic batons. The confrontation was settled when the 500 protesters sat in the road in non-violent immobility and the police accepted the setting up of a sound system and the bouncy castle, enabling the party to continue through the afternoon."

CARDIFF: "Four lanes of the bridge over the river Taf were reclaimed for about 3-4 hours. A sound system played out against a backdrop of great banners hung from lamp-posts and a veritable sea of custard (What?). Trade-unionists and crusties danced side by side until about 8:30pm, then walked to a warehouse for an after-party, followed by very fluffy cops."

NORTH & SOUTH LONDON: "Two sets of old cars were deliberately crashed at either end against a backdrop of red smoke, to block out cars and set the scene. Police kept traffic problems at bay by diverting motorists and the festivities went on until midnight." "....."It was weird to walk into an area of pandemonium and actually feel SAFER than the streets we had just come from!" "....."I reckon that most of the people involved in the RTS movement would agree about the lack of inclusivity and diversity, the risk of sinking into a counterculture/raver ghetto of our own making, and so on. RTS needs to be more genuinely rooted in community. However, the Brixton and Euston parties were positive and inclusive in a way that the London group hasn't managed for 3 years."

DISCLAIMER: THE EDITORS OF THE EF!AU DO NOT ENCOURAGE ILLEGAL ACTION. THE AU IS FOR INFO PURPOSES ONLY

EVENTS

JULY

4 - 'Independence From America Day' of NVDA and fun outside (?) Menwith Hill US Spy Base.

4 - GenetiX Snowball begins

4 - RevolutionFest! Conference, Sussex, 01580 883300

5 - South Downs mass trespass, 12 noon, Brighton station, 01273 685913

5 - Demo against Huntingdon Life Sciences, meet HLS gates, Woolley Rd, Alconbury, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, 0589 026435

11 - Demo to shut cat-torturing Hillgrove Farm, 0171 2783066

18-19 - Ashton Court Festival, Bristol, Call Kebele for more.

AUGUST

7-9 - West Country Activist Gathering, south-west England

15 - Bristol Street Party, 12 noon, meet Eastville Park

16-31 - International Seminar on Globalisation and Resistance, Geneva <playfair@asta.rwth-aachen.de>

SEPTEMBER

9-14 - Earth First! 1998 National Gathering, south-west England, contact EF! Summer Gathering c/o Leeds EF!

CRITICAL MASS

Birmingham - first Saturday each month, Victoria Square, 12 noon

Manchester - last Friday each month, St Peter's Square, 5pm

Glasgow - last Saturday, Byres Road/ University Avenue, 2pm

Edinburgh - last Friday, the Mound, 5.30pm

Exeter - last Friday, Paris St Cafe, by the bus stop, 5.15pm

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If the circle is ticked your subscription has run out - renew it now!



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Smashing the Image Factory

A Complete Manual of Billboard Subversion & Destruction

"The billboard artist's goal is to throw a well aimed spanner into the media's gears, bringing the image factory to a shuddering halt. We work to unmask the real corporate activity behind the glamorous image. Our actions reclaim these billboards and use them as our own canvasses. After all, it's our walls that are being rented out for business propaganda."

BILLBOARD IMPROVEMENT - HOW TO CLEAN UP YOUR HIGH STREET

Destruction of any of the State's ideological weapons of control will always be a rewarding experience. Most times it may be that you don't need any more than a tin of paint, a little humour and a quiet night to turn a multinational's expensive advertisement into your own guerrilla tapestry. This deals with the direct subversion of the billboard's message - to answer it, question it, or overturn it, all at their expense.

METHODS

If you want to use spray cans then beware illegible scrawl and spelling mistakes. Also: like the hip hop graffitos, get yourself a pistol grip plastic handle that fits around the can, saving on tired fingers and ensuring that the paint goes in the right direction. These are cheap and easily available at any car-shop. The most effective alterations are certainly the simplest: the addition of one or two letters; or a speech bubble; or pasting over certain words or letters with appropriately coloured paper. A skilfully reworked billboard directs the passer-by to a consideration of the original corporate strategy, in the context of a thoughtful reaction.

For lettering, either paint your slogan on paper or, better still, find a computer and do the alphabet, one letter on each A4 printout. These are your originals - don't paste them up. When you want a slogan, take each letter in turn and blow them up on a copier. With a computer you should be able to find the exact typeface that is already on the billboard. Very impressive was some bright spark's addition to Volkswagon's "We put people in front of cars" by reproducing in exact type underneath: "And children under the front wheels".

REDECORATING

Use wallpaper paste for the hit, a bucket and a paint brush. Coat the area to be covered with lots of paste, place on the graphic and go over it again with lots of paste (a little pva in the mix makes it set quicker and waterproofs it as well). A broom will get you higher - cut down the head to fit inside the bucket. Watch the billboards for when they change them - if

you catch them right you can get plenty of outside studio space and time for your visual banditry. Rather than skulking around in the middle of the night looking suspicious, put on some overalls, get a gang together and go for it during daylight hours - you'll be able to see what you are doing for starters. Most passers-by we've met think it's a good laugh. If caught while putting it up, "Why officer, look, it peels straight off again!". *"We think tampering's far more effective than just spray painting a billboard because people automatically dismiss that. With our slogans people don't immediately recognise it as agit-prop."* - AVI Billboard Interventions

BILLBOARD FELLING

The following section is taken from the US EF! book "Ecodefense":

Safety: It is important to remove billboards. It is also important not to get caught (so we can remove more billboards). Personal safety from self-inflicted injury is also extremely important when using the methods described below. Never stand in the area where a sign can fall (front or back). Walk outside of this danger zone. Watch the sign closely the entire time you are cutting. Leave the outermost poles for last. Always have an escape route planned if the sign shows evidence of falling prematurely. Good safety goggles, available at any hardware stores, can eliminate sawdust problems.

Sign-Cutting: Stop periodically to listen for any indication of discovery. Felling is accomplished by pushing on the outermost poles, aided sometimes with ropes. Use the rope(s) only for monkeywrenching since it may have to be abandoned if your work is disrupted - you don't want it accumulating fibres, dirt and oil stains that can link it with your home or workplace. Store it in a plastic trash bag between jobs.

Evidence that will remain on your clothing includes bits of brush, dirt on boots and knees, and sawdust.

Field Notes: Effective sign cutting requires a three person team: a driver and two cutters. With four, your cutting team can have a lookout who can also alternate with the cutters in shifts. A five person team is the largest size for safe operations and permits two teams of cutters and thus faster work at the target site. Axes are the least desirable billboard tools. Sometimes microscopic marks left on the

wood can be matched to a specific axe - saw marks, on the other hand, are usually impossible to match up.

LONG ARM OF THE LAW

If you want to write on a billboard that's too high to reach, you can either get a ladder (which isn't particularly convenient) or build a spray can extension rod. *You really need the details & diagrams for this, so see the EF! web site or contact Dead Trees EF!* You may have to experiment a bit to get the right measurements to fit your can of spray paint. Although these extension rods are clumsy to use at first, with practice they become very effective.

FUN WITH PAINT

Fill thin plastic bags one third full with half and half paint and thinners (for better splatter); tie up tight, squeezing all the air out; carry half a dozen in a box to the target and, standing at an angle- unless you want to cover yourself- throw. Another proven splattering technique involves borrowing a pressurized water-type fire extinguisher from a business or public building. The ones you want are the old red ones with a valve, the same valve as on inflatable tyres. Empty out the contents and relieve all the pressure inside. next, open the top and use a funnel to pour in a well-stirred 50/50 mix of paint and thinners or the preferred water and acrylic-type house paint. Pressurize the extinguisher secretly at a petrol station; watch the pressure gauge to know when to stop. Use this spray gun to deface billboard ads. Do not attempt to cover the whole sign but make the most of your paint. Clean the extinguisher out after each use or it will clog up. At your earliest opportunity, check your skin, hair and clothes to make sure that there is no incriminating paint on your person. Keep a small can of paint thinners (or water, depending on the type of paint used) and rags on hand just in case.

If you have time to burn and no surfing costs to incur, check out Smashing The Image Factory on ISD's web site: graphics, anti-media, hard politics and suggestions for struggle in the era of the millenium.

The above was taken from an article on subvertising on the UK EF! web site. For more, get in touch with the Subvertising Standards Agency c/o Corporate Watch, or <vernify@patrol.i-way.co.uk>

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PO Box 23, 5 High St,
Glastonbury,
Somerset BA6 9PU

Norfolk EF!
The Greenhouse,
42-46 Bethel Street,
Norwich NR2 1NR

Nottingham EF!
c/o The Rainbow Centre,
182 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham NG1 3HW
0115 958 5666

Oldham EF!
PO Box 127,
Oldham OL4 3FE
0161 628 5128

Oxford EF!
Box E, 111 Magdalen Rd
Oxford OX4 1RQ

REACT
6 Edinburgh Crescent,
Leamington Spa CV3 13LL

Reclaim the Streets
PO Box 9656,
London N4 4JY
0171 281 4621
rts@gn.apc.org
www.hrc.wmin.ac.uk/campaigns/rts.html

Reclaim the Valleys
c/o Swansea Environment
Centre, Pier Street,
Swansea SA1 1RY

Reading Roadbusters
R.T.S. Centre, 35-39 London
Street, Reading, Berkshire
0118 986 6362
chris_a@waveland.org

Sheffield EF!
c/o SheFIN,
201 Crookes Valley Road,
Sheffield S10 1BA
0114 267 1200
bjgoss@pine.shu.ac.uk

South Devon EF!
Birdwood House, 44 High
Street, Totnes, Devon
01626 363844

South Downs EF!
PO Box 2971,
Brighton BN2 2GY
savage@easynet.co.uk
www.hrc.wmin.ac.uk/campaigns/ef/earthfirst.html

Swansea People EF!
c/o Green Action, Swansea
Uni SU, Swansea, Wales

The Flat Oak Society
c/o 3 St Alphege Lane,
Canterbury, Kent CT1 2EB
01227 463368

Upper Nene EF!
Box E, 24 St. Michaels
Avenue, Northampton NN1

Warwick EF!
c/o Green Society, Warwick
Uni SU, Coventry CV4 7AL
suad@csv.warwick.ac.uk

Wolves Eco Action
c/o Wolves Hunt Sabs,
Wolves Uni SU, Wulfruna
Street, Wolverhampton

York EF!
c/o York LEAF
PO Box 323, York
01904 410185

PROPAGANDA

Contraflow
c/o 56A Info Shop,
56 Crampton Street,
London SE17
Fax: 0171 326 0353

Corporate Watch
(address same as Oxford EF!)
01865 791391
mail@corporatewatch.i-way.co.uk
www.oneworld.org/cw/

Counter Information
c/o Transmission, 28 King
Street, Glasgow G1 5QP

Dead Trees EF! (distro) &
'Do or Die'
c/o South Downs EF!

DELTA c/o LEAF

EF! Action Update
c/o Manchester EF!
NB NOT PHONE NO.
actionupdate@gn.apc.org

Genetix Update (see GEN)

FINs - for a full list of Free
Information Networks (&
more), send SAE to London
FIN c/o 99, Torriano
Avenue, London NW5 2RX

NottsFIN/Ned Ludds News
(same address as NottsEF!)

The Porkboller
PO Box 4144,
Worthing BN14

Schnews/Justice?
PO Box 2600, Brighton,
E. Sussex BN2 2DX
01273 685913
www.cbuzz.co.uk/SchNEWS/index.html

Squall
PO Box 8959,
London N12 5HW
0171 561 1204
eds@squall.co.uk

Undercurrents
16b Cherwell Street,
Oxford OX 4 1BG
01865 203661
underc@gn.apc.org

West Country Activist
(same address as Bath EF!)

Y Ddeilan Werdd/The Green
Leaf
c/o G & M EF! or
JimK@undeb.bangor.ac.uk

OTHER CONTACTS

Advisory Service for
Squatters
2, St Pauls Road, London
N1 2QN
0171 359 8814

ALF Supporters Group
BCM Box 1160,
London WC1N 3XX

Anarchist Black Cross
c/o PO Box 446,
Sheffield S1 1NY

Anarchist-Primitivist
Network
PO Box 252,
Rickmansworth,
Hertfordshire WD3 3AY

Anti-Fascist Action
BM Box 1734,
London WC1N 3XX

Against Quarries Action
(AQUA)
Kimberly Mill Park,
King's Steignton
TQ12 3NR
01626 363844

Campaign Legal Group
43 Swan Meadow Road,
Poolstock, Wigan WN3 5BJ
01942 513792

Counter Culture Collective
c/o Manchester EF!

Disabled Action Network
3 Crawley Road, Wood
Green, London N22 6AN
0181 8891361

Earth Circus Network
c/o PO Box 2679,
Brighton BN2 2DN
0378 636254

EarthRights
Battlebridge Centre,
Battlebridge Road,
London NW1 2TL
0171 278 1005
earthrights@gn.apc.org

Environmental Ploughshares
Box W, 111 Magdalen Rd
Oxford OX4 1RQ

Forest Action Network UK
(same address as NorfolkEF!)
01603 611953
fanuk@envirolink.org

Freedom Network
PO Box 9384,
London SW9 7ZB
0171 793 7343

Gandalf Support Campaign
c/o London Greenpeace,
Panther House, 38 Mount
Pleasant,
London WC1X 0AP
lgp@envirolink.org

Genetic Engineering Network
(GEN)
(address same as RTS)
0181 374 9516
gen@earthling.net

Green Anarchist Network
BCM 1715,
London WC1N 3XX

Head State Support Group
72 Park Road,
Worthing BN11 2AN

Hunt Saboteurs Association
PO Box 2786,
Brighton BN2 2AX
01273 622827
hsa@gn.apc.org

Friends of MOVE
PO Box 14129,
London W12 8GR

The Land is Ours
(address same as OxfordEF!)
01865 722016

Legal Defence & Monitoring
Group
BM Haven,
London WC1N 3XX
0181 5337116

Making Waves
PO Box 13, Ottery St Mary,
Devon EX11 1ZD
01404 811006

London GreenPeace &
McLibel Support Campaign
5 Caledonian Road,
London N1 9DX
0171 713 1269
info@mcspotlight.org

No Opencast
190 Shepherds Bush Road,
London W6 7NL
0171 603 1831

Parents' Action Network
Brambles Housing Co-op,
82 Andover St,
Sheffield S3 9EH
0114 279 7164

Road Alert!
PO Box 5544, Newbury,
Berkshire RG14 7YB
roadalert@gn.apc.org

Save the Hillgrove Cats
Box CB,
111 Magdalen Rd, Oxford

Spirit of Freedom
(Earth Liberation Prisoners)
c/o BM HEAL,
London WC1N 3XX

Third Battle of Newbury
PO Box 5520,
Newbury RG14 7YW
01635 45544

Trident Ploughshares 2000
(address same as NorfolkEF!)

URGENT (greenbelt
housing)
Box HN, 111 Magdalen
Road, Oxford OX4 1RQ
01865 721366
info@urgent.org.uk

AUTONOMOUS ZONES

Aldermaston Women's Peace
Camp (every 2nd weekend)
33 Heron Road,
Bristol BS5 0LT
0117 939 3746/0170 355
4434/0122 239 6563

Alvis Factory (Scorpion tanks
to Indonesia)
Northview, Walsgrave,
Coventry
01926 338805/0336 774113

Anarchist Teapot
Box B, Public House
Bookshop, 21, Little Preston
Street, Brighton BN1 2HQ
teapot@brighton.co.uk

Ashton Court (quarry into
public park), Bristol
0117 939 3093/0467 430211

Autonomous Centre of
Edinburgh
17 West Montgomery Place,
Edinburgh EH7 5HA
0131 557 6242

Brewery Fields Campaign
(greenbelt housing)
The Greenhouse, High Street,
Bangor
0836 563980
jimk@undeb.bangor.ac.uk

BARC (Bingley Anti-Road
Campaign)
Rye Loaf Camp, Bingley
BD16 2HZ
01274 504626/0961 367421

Birmingham Northern Relief
Road Campaign
Greenwood Protest Site,
London Road, Canwell,
nr Sutton Coldfield,
W.Midlands
0797 0301978

Crystal Palace (development)
Big Willow Ecovillage,
Palace Parade, London SE19
0181 761 7826

Deadwoman's Bottom
Protest Camp
Nr Green Farm,
Chantry, Frome BA 11
01749 880144

Derby (development)
Bass Recreation Ground
Derby DE1 2DW
0797 0318397/01332
727237
reclaim@mcmail.com

Faslane Peace Camp
Shandon, Helensburgh,
Dunbartonshire,
Scotland G84 8HT
01436 820901

Kebele Community Centre
14, Robertson Road,
Eastville, Bristol BS5 6JY
0117 939 9469

Menwith Womens' Peace
Camp (spybase)
A59 Lay-By, Nr Harrogate,
N.Yorkshire HG3 2RA
01943 468593

121 Centre
121 Railton Road, Brixton
London SE24
0171 274 6655

1 in 12 Club
21-23 Albion Street,
Bradford BD1 2LY
01274 734160

Oxford LMS squat
(development/road)
0797 0343486

Radstock Railway
(development), near Bath
01761 432273

Save Lymeing Forest
Greensword, The Spout
House, Lymeing,
Kent CT21 4LQ
01303 265737/0468 945595

Sellafield Women's Peace
Camp (bimonthly)
Peace House, 5 New Road,
Littleborough,
Lancashire OL15
0141 2265066/01132621534

INTERNATIONAL

An Talamh Glas & Pobal an
Dulra (Irish AU)
Unit 66, Liffey Trust
Building, 117 Upper Sherriff
Street, Dublin 1, Eire
+353-1-855 0965
allenr@bluewin.ch

ASEED Europe
PO Box 92066, 1090 AB
Amsterdam, Netherlands
+31-20 6682236
aseedeur@antenna.nl

Autonomous Green Action
POB 4721, Station E,
Ottawa, Ontario K1S 5H9,
Canada

Action For Social Ecology
Box 34089,
10026 Stockholm, Sweden
ekologisten@usa.net

Australian EF! AU
PO Box 3163, South
Brisbane 4101, Australia
ef_au@hotmail.com

Coast Mountains EF!
1472 Commercial Drive,
Box 128, Vancouver V5L
3X9, Canada
+1-604-708 9660

Czech Republic EF!
Zeme predevsim!
PO Box 237, 16041 Prague
6, Czech Republic
zemepredevsim@czn.cz

Earth First! Journal
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Eugene OR 97440, USA
+1-541-344 8004
earthfirst@igc.apc.org

Ecodefence!
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120-34236006
Kaliningrad/Koenigsburg
Russia
ecodefence@glas.apc.org

Finland EF!
Viivinkatu 17 AS 17,
33610 Tampere 61,
Finland
ransu@sci.fi

FIN
Umweltprojektwerkstatt,
Yorkstrasse 59 HH,
10965 Berlin, Germany
+49-30 78913144
mprowe@jpbberlin.berlinet.de

Groene Front!
Postbus 85069, 3508 AB
Utrecht, The Netherlands
ruigoord@hotmail.com

Poland EF!
PO Box 40,
43-304 Bielsko-Biala 4
Poland
+48-33 183153
wapienica@pnrwl.most.org.pl

Rainbow Keepers (Ukraine)
PO Box 322,
Kiev 252187, Ukraine
nadia@gluk.apc.org

Volunteers For Earth Defence
189 San Antonio Ext
SfDM, 1105 Quezon City,
Philippines

WHAT IS EARTH FIRST!?

Earth First! is not a cohesive group or a campaign, but a convenient banner for people who share similar philosophies to work under. The general principles behind the name are non-hierarchical organisation and the use of direct action to confront, stop, and eventually reverse the forces that are responsible for the destruction of the Earth and its inhabitants. The above contacts are autonomous groups that consider themselves to share these principles. International contacts are entry points into that country's own network of groups. Other contacts are ones whose aims and principles are ones that we agree with fully or in part, or groups that we think may be of use or interest to people.

NEW ADDITIONS OR ALTERATIONS ARE SHOWN IN BOLD.